

215240US-0PCT



13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 JAN 2002

09/956362

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
YASUJI HIRAMATSU ET AL. :  
SERIAL NO: 09/926,362 : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH  
FILED: OCTOBER 22, 2001 :  
FOR: ALUMINUM NITRIDE SINTERED  
BODY, CERAMIC SUBSTRATE,  
CERAMIC HEATER AND ELECTRO-  
STATIC CHUCK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE TITLE

Please delete the title beginning on page 1, line 3 and replace with the following title.

ALUMINUM NITRIDE SINTERED COMPACT, CERAMIC  
SUBSTRATE, CERAMIC HEATER AND ELECTROSTATIC CHUCK

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

3. (Amended) The aluminum nitride sintered body according to claim 1,  
wherein said aluminum nitride sintered body contains oxygen.

7. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to claim 5,  
wherein said ceramic substrate comprises nitride ceramic and said nitride ceramic  
contains sulfur therein.

8. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to claim 5,  
wherein the content of said sulfur is in a range of 0.05 to 200 ppm.

9. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to claim 5,  
wherein said ceramic substrate contains oxygen.

10. (Amended) A ceramic heater,  
wherein the ceramic substrate according to claim 5 is used.

11. (Amended) An electrostatic chuck,  
wherein the ceramic substrate according to claim 5 is used.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are active in the present application. Claims 3 and 7-11 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. The title has been amended to match the title on the International Publication Sheet. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Serial No: _____
Amendment Filed on: _____
1-16-2002

IN THE TITLE

Please delete the title beginning on page 1, line 3 and replace with the following title.

--ALUMINUM NITRIDE SINTERED COMPACT, CERAMIC  
SUBSTRATE, CERAMIC HEATER AND ELECTROSTATIC CHUCK--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

- 3. (Amended) The aluminum nitride sintered body according to claim 1 [or 2],  
wherein said aluminum nitride sintered body contains oxygen.
7. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to claim 5 [or 6],  
wherein said ceramic substrate comprises nitride ceramic and said nitride ceramic  
contains sulfur therein.
8. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to [any of claims 5 to 7] claim 5,  
wherein the content of said sulfur is in a range of 0.05 to 200 ppm.
9. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to [any of claims 5 to 8] claim 5,  
wherein said ceramic substrate contains oxygen.
10. (Amended) A ceramic heater,  
wherein the ceramic substrate according to [any of claims 5 to 9] claim 5 is used.

11. (Amended) An electrostatic chuck,

wherein the ceramic substrate according to [any of claims 5 to 9] claim 5 is used.--